



Membership in CEDS

Enhancing Diversity in Science: A Leadership Retreat on the Role of Professional Associations and Scientific Societies that summarizes this important meeting cosponsored by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

The retreat was a successful first step in collaboration among the disciplines of science and their federal partners to increase the diversity across the various fields of science that are critical to maintaining the United States as the world's leader in science. The goal of the Retreat was to spawn collaboration among associations, societies, federal agencies, and private foundations. As a key stakeholder in supporting the sciences, we wanted you to be aware of the success and challenges we face as a country in achieving diversity in the scientific enterprise. Our organizations believe that collaboration is essential to enhancing recruitment and retention of underrepresented ethnic and racial minorities in science. Our hopes are that the retreat will forge new opportunities for these groups to work together, learn from each other, and develop common approaches, where appropriate.

The consensus that emerged from the retreat is that enhancing the diversity of the scientific workforce is a shared aspiration. This cannot be accomplished, however, through a single or simple step divorced from institutions' and organizations' overall work and missions. We will achieve success when the commitment is infused into all aspects of an organization and at all levels of leadership. Most importantly, diversity must be understood as involving not merely a certain number of students, faculty members or workers, but as an essential element of science and of growing a field or discipline. This commitment must be demonstrated by specific actions by organizations, working both individually and in concert. Using their influence, resources, and expertise, America's professional associations and scientific societies in collaboration with federal agencies and each other can move the issue forward on many fronts.

Recognizing that a collective leadership around enhancing diversity in the sciences is urgently needed, the group formed the **Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in the Sciences (CEDS)** to address the recommendations that resulted from this retreat.

If your organization is interested in being a part of CEDS, please provide your contact information and fax this form back to **Angela Sharpe at 202/842-2788**.

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Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in Science



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American Association for the Advancement of Science

American Educational Research Association

American Psychological Association

American Sociological Association

Association of American Medical Colleges

Consortium of Social Science Associations

Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research

Society for Research in Child Development